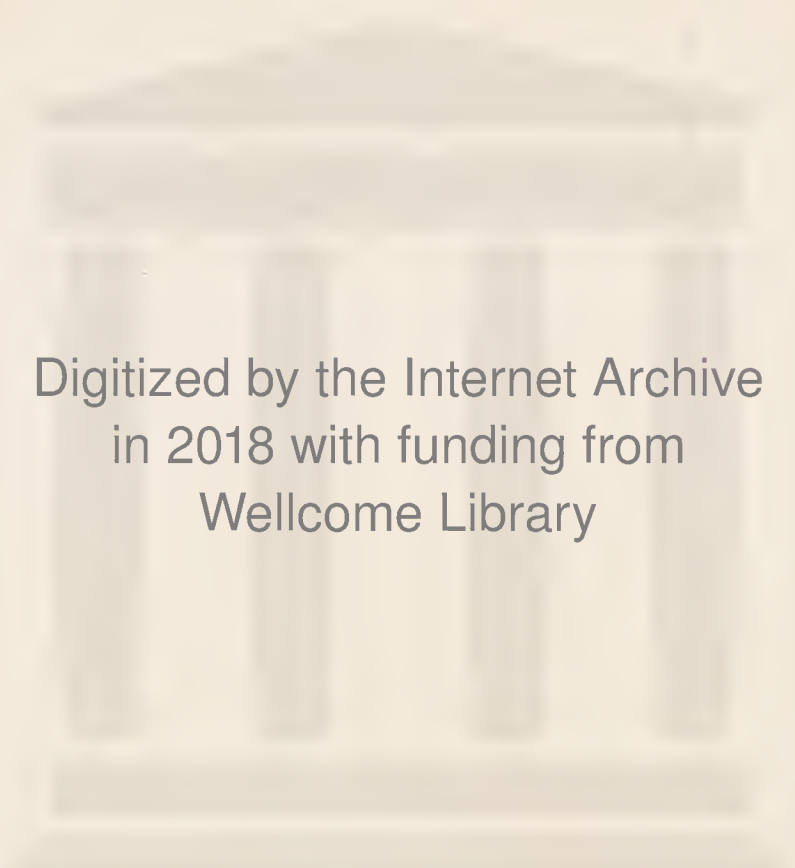


With the Medical Officer's Compliments.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1895,

FOR THE

Urban Sanitary District of Mossley.



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TOWN HALL, MOSSLEY,

FEBRUARY 8TH, 1896.

ANNUAL REPORT, 1895.

*To the Chairman and Members of the
Sanitary Committee.*

GENTLEMEN,

In presenting my twelfth Annual Report, I propose to adhere to the plan previously adopted of dividing it into three portions, the first containing a record of the number of the registered births and deaths during the year 1895, together with the rates of mortality from the seven principal zymotic diseases; the second consisting of a detailed account of the sanitary work accomplished in the district, and the means taken to prevent the spread of disease; while the third portion will consist of an account of enquiries made as to the general condition of the district, accompanied with the usual tabulated forms of birth and death rates, zymotic death rate, rate of infant mortality, &c.

1.—The number of registered births during the year 1895 was 286, 141 males and 145 females; the deaths during the same period numbered 271, 119 males and 152 females, the natural increase in the population being 15. Seventeen deaths have occurred from Zymotic diseases, as against eight in the previous year, giving a death-rate of 1.1 per 1000 of the population. Of these, one died from Scarlet Fever, one from Typhoid, three from Measles, ten from Whooping Cough, and two from Diarrhœa.

The Birth-rate for the year is 19.8 per 1000, and the Death-rate 18.7 per 1000. The number of children who died under one year is 58, as against 39 in 1894, the Infant mortality being 4.1 to 1000 births, as compared with a Death-rate of 2.7 to 1000 births in the previous year. More infants would be saved were it not for the custom prevalent in this district of exposing them to sudden changes of temperature by taking them out in the early mornings to be nursed. One frequent cause of Infant mortality is improper feeding, both as to the kind of food given and the times of administration. Many infants die from stomach and intestinal troubles, giving rise to convulsions.

2.—In giving a detailed account of the Sanitary work done in the district, I have to state that the number of cases reported as suffering from Infectious diseases during the year was 17, as against 35 in 1894. The "Notification of Infectious Diseases Act" is not compulsory, and I would again urge this Com-

mittee to make it so without further delay. The "Infectious Diseases (Prevention) Act, 1890," and the "Public Health Amendment Act, 1890," are in force. With respect to the Zymotic diseases, I give the following table :—

- a* Diphtheria : 3 cases reported ; no deaths.
- b* Typhoid Fever : 6 cases reported : 1 death.
- c* Measles : 3 deaths.
- d* Whooping-Cough : 10 deaths.
- e* Small-Pox : no cases.
- f* Scarlet Fever : 16 cases reported ; 1 death.
- g* Diarrhœa and Dysentery : 2 deaths.

Twenty-six cases of Infectious disease were notified, and twenty-two houses were disinfected. In all cases of Infectious disease the house is visited, disinfectants supplied, and printed instructions left for the prevention of the spread of infection, and in each case notified by the tenant, the house is again visited and disinfected with Sulphur and Carbolic Acid.

With reference to the cases of Scarlet Fever, I have no doubt the majority were due to the want of isolation ; as this highly-infectious disease is endemic, it is advisable to have a suitable building for the reception of such cases ; indeed, the subject of Isolation generally is worthy of the attention of this Committee, as the Hospital at May Hills is used solely for Small-Pox.

Regarding the Water Supply, I may say that during 1895, the Swineshaw Works were visited by the Local Government expert in September, and samples were sent to the County Analyst for analysis. At the end of 1894 the water was treated with lime, and that treatment is being continued up to the present time, with the effect that the acid condition of the water has been neutralized, and, in my opinion, it may now be used with perfect safety by the most fastidious. No case of death from lead poisoning, either as primary or secondary, has been reported during the year.

I make regular and frequent inspections of the District, and note the unsanitary conditions. Upon finding any defects likely to be injurious, I notify the Committee, and notice is given for the nuisance to be abated. I visit the Registered Lodging-Houses, Workshops, Bake-houses, Slaughter-houses, and Dairies, and give instructions for their ventilation, cleanliness, and lime-washing. I attend all the meetings of the Sanitary Committee, and advise it on all matters likely to affect the Public Health. During the year I have had to call your attention to a number of unsanitary conditions in the District; some have been rectified, and others are in process.

The Sewage Scheme, on the "International" principle, is not yet completed, but it is thought that early in the year it will be ready for use. We have now a Public Mortuary situate in the Town Hall yard; also an ambulance. We are still in want of a Disinfecter.

3.—After frequent inspections of the District, and seeing that the nuisances likely to injure the Public Health, have been, or are in course of being removed, I am of the opinion that the general sanitary condition of the Borough may be regarded as satisfactory. For the first nine weeks of the year we had an epidemic of Influenza, but it was of a milder type than its predecessors; there was also an epidemic of Measles and Scarlet Fever, which began early in May and continued until the end of June. The chief diseases in the District are Consumption, Diseases of the Respiratory Organs, Rheumatism, and the various diseases incidental to childhood.

I now give the usual formal tables of Mortality, Birth-and-Death-Rates, &c., as required by the Local Government Board for use in the Registrar General's Department.

TABLE OF POPULATION, BIRTHS, AND NEW CASES OF
INFECTIOUS SICKNESS.

Coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of
Health, during the year 1895.

Population at all ages.

Census, 1891.....	14,162
Estimated to end of 1895	14,463
Registered Births	286

The Deaths during the year were as follows :

Under 1 year	58
1 and under 5 years	31
5 " 15 "	10
15 " 25 "	18
25 " 65 "	94
65 and upwards.....	60
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Total.....	271

Causes of Death.

Small-Pox.....	0	
Measles	3	
Scarlet Fever	1	
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup	0	
Whooping-Cough	10	
Fevers {		
	Typhus	0
	Typhoid	1
	Continued	0
	Relapsing	0
Puerperal	0	
Diarrhœa and Dysentery.....	2	
Cholera	0	
Rheumatic Fever	2	
Erysipelas	0	
Phthisis	25	
Bronchitis, Pneumonia and Pleurisy	58	
Heart Disease	20	
Injuries	1	
All other diseases	148	
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Total.....	271	

Birth Rate	19.8	per 1000
Death Rate.....	18.7	„
„ for Consumption	1.7	„
„ Pneumonia, Bronchitis, } and Pleurisy	4.1	„
Infant Mortality	4.1	„
Zymotic Death Rate	1.1	„
Increase of population in 1895.....		15

Amongst other Sanitary work done during the year I may mention the following :—

Lees Road : stable removed, and manure taken away weekly.

Old Hollins : Unsanitary drains ; insufficient closet accommodation.

Church Street : Overcrowding.

Craddock Street : Decaying vegetable matter to be removed weekly.

Quick : Unsanitary drains.

Stamford Road : Unsanitary condition of drains.

Howards : Dangerous condition of sewage from farm.

Apsley Terrace : Thirty slopstone pipes disconnected.

The following is the Report of the Inspector of Nuisances :

No. of Pails removed from houses, 1895	....	39,000
„ „ mills	.....	11,175
„ „ slaughter-houses..		1,716
„ „ schools	.....	936
„ „ workshops	.....	322
„ „ fish shops	.....	202
„ „ Gasworks	.....	158

Total 53,509

Dry Ashes removed from houses on the		
Pail system	.....	3,257 loads
Old Ash Pits	.....	57 „
Mill tanks	.....	7 „

Total 3,321

Hanover Street	{	Paved, Flagged, and Channelled.
Argyle Street		

I am, Gentlemen,

Faithfully yours,

G. T. SCHOFIELD,
Medical Officer of Health.

MOSSLEY:

GREGORY WILLIAMSON, PRINTER, STAMFORD STREET.

